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Hampshire SO53 5RR (GB). GRIMES, Ryan [GB/GB]; Glenrose, Gordon Road, Curdridge, Southampton, Hampshire SO32 2BE (GB).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): STANELCO RF TECHNOLOGIES LTD [GB/GB]; Starpol Technology Centre, North Road, Marchwood Industrial Park, Marchwood, Southampton SO40 4BL (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BALCHIN, Ian, Henry [GB/GB]; 4 Barley Close, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 9BX (GB). FEAST, Michael, Alan, John [GB/GB]; 6 Heathfield Road, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh,

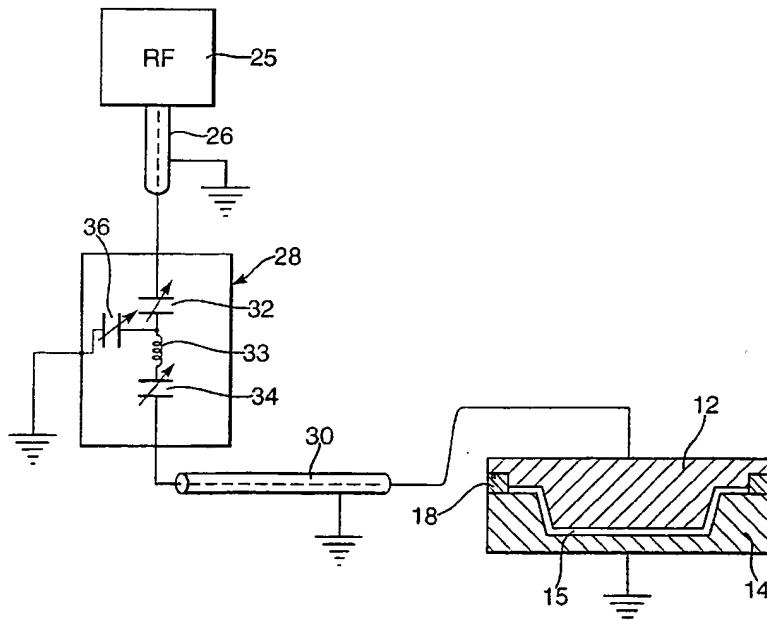
(74) Agents: MANSFIELD, Peter, Turquand et al.; Accentus plc, Patents Dept., 329 Harwell, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 0QJ (GB).

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(54) Title: MAKING FOAMED BODIES



(57) Abstract: Making foamed bodies by introducing a biodegradable polymer mixture into a mould (10) in which it is heated to form a foam and to fill the mould. The mould is defined between two opposed parts (12, 14) that mate together, and each mould part is of electrically conducting material, and the moulding surfaces are coated with an electrically insulating material (16). Radio-frequency signals are applied (25) between the mould parts (12, 14) so that the polymer mixture is heated by dielectric heating, so a foam tray is formed in less than 15 s. This provides a more rapid cycle time than using heated moulds. The radio frequency signals may be 27.12 MHz, or 40.68 MHz. The polymer may be starch-based.

FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

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